

THERE'S NOT ENOUGH ART IN OUR SCHOOLS.

NO WONDER PEOPLE THINK  
**CARAVAGGIO**  
IS A GUY ON *THE SOPRANOS*.

**I**t's hard to believe. Here's a 16th-century Baroque master whose bold naturalistic painting style first created a sensation, then a movement. A guy



*If you're looking for Caravaggio, you're very, very cold.*

whose life was filled with the turbulence and excess of a dozen Mario Puzo novels.

A guy who, while troubled, ultimately found redemption

and immortality in his art. But does the average kid on the street even know who Caravaggio is?

Fuhgedaboudit.

Too bad. Especially when you consider how much our children can learn from the conflicted life of a great artist like Michelangelo Caravaggio.

He grew up in less than ideal circumstances. Most of his family died in the plague. Much of his youth was misspent on the mean streets of Rome. And as a

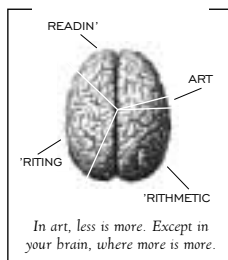


*A self-portrait of Caravaggio as Bacchus. Honestly, he wouldn't last 10 minutes on The Sopranos.*

young artist he struggled for years to make a living. He was angry. Yet the angry contrast between light and darkness in his work is the very reason it now hangs in countless museums around the world.

If nothing else, it's a case study of the importance of having art as an outlet. Unfortunately, one we're fast removing from our kids' lives.

If the arts are indeed a vital part of your child's education (and studies show you believe they are), then you should demand his or her fair share. To find out how, or for more information about the benefits of arts education, please visit us at [AmericansForTheArts.org](http://AmericansForTheArts.org). Because, as Caravaggio would tell you, life without art is torture.



**ART. ASK FOR MORE.**



For more information about the importance of arts education, please contact [www.AmericansForTheArts.org](http://www.AmericansForTheArts.org).

